Merry Moments With Humorists

Some of the Best Things Written by the Acknowledged Masters.

BECAME HERMIT

RECLUSE IN MAINE MOUNTAINS

REVEALS ROMANCE WHICH

DROVE HIM TO SOLITUDE.

WORKED LONG TO WIN BRIDE

Returning to Claim Her, After Three

Years' Absence, He Met the Fu-

neral Procession Carrying

Her Body to the Grave.

ging camps, lives Jack Wilber, the

hermit of Peaked mountain, who for

13 years has dwelt in solitude in a log

surrounded this slender, palefaced rec-

luse, whose physique did not seem strong enough to withstand the hard-

ships of a winter in the Maine woods,

and who in every way appeared un-

It was known that Wilber had to his

eredit \$30,000 in a local bank, and this made his conduct all the more inex-

provided by two lumbermen, who returned to Machias from a trip through

the Crooked River valley and who partook one night of the hospitality of

the hermit. They induced him to tell

himself from the haunts of civiliza-

This romance of his life, he says, he

aunt who lived in Montana. My new

guardians seemed to resent the addi-

tional burden which had been thrust

upon them, and my life with them was

"As I became older the slights be-

"Yes, Jack," She Replied, "I Will Wait

for You Three Years."

ment and, if possible, a less irksome

"One night, when I was about 20

years old, I asked Mary if she would

trust me and wait for me three years.

During that time, I said, I would earn

enough money so that we could ge

'Yes, Jack,' she replied, 'I will wait

for you three years, and I know I can

"The story of my attempts to gain

a living for the next two years is not

of especial interest, but at the end of

that time I succeeded in purchasing a

building lot of L. P. Small, who owned

a large ranch in southern California,

and by whom I was employed. Soon

after natural gas was discovered on

the ranch, and I sold my section of it

"The three years were nearly up.

"When I arrived at the little town

"On the way I met a funeral pro-

ance who was dead. His reply shat-

tered in a moment the air castles

which I had been building, for he told

me that my sweetheart had died only

two days before, after a brief illness.

I did not feel that I could meet my

uncle and aunt, so I immediately with

drew my money from the bank and

took the first train east. I kept on in

wilds of Washington county, in Maine,

in the easternmest part of the coun-

Here is where I shall always stay.

Mary, and until then the lonelicat

Pennsylvania leads all the states in

When I go it shall be to

place is none too lonely for me.

All the charm of life had gone.

I asked a former acquaint-

and my first thought was of Mary

constant communication.

then started for Mary's home.

existence.

married and go cast.

came still more unbearable, and had

fitted for the life which he had chosen

to lead.

lonely existence.

has never told before

Something of a mystery has always

The Lodgers' Union

dollars for hall bedrooms.

once a month.

"Hash shall be served not more than

"Prones are restricted to the first

Monday in Lent and such days of

By H. M. Egbert.

I am one of that large and unfor- | lars for rooms known as square; three cunate class that lives in hall bedrooms and "square" rooms-invidious title; our means being composed of a preponderance of prunes and hash, while for breakfast we have the alternative between ham or egg. In other words, I am a lodger in boarding

I had been out of the city for a few months, and on my return was startled by the aleration in Mrs. Pruyn's appearance. Her buxom figure had shrunken to moderated dimensions; her face was wreathed in smiles; while the house seemed to have been freshly decorated and

"I'd like to take you in, Mr. Firstfront," she said falteringly, "but are you a member of the Lodgers' union?"

"What's that?" I inquired. Then she explained. The lodgers, it appeared, had formed a union for the preservation of their rights, and I must prove to the secretary that I had had the lodger habit for six months or more; upon which I could receive a card, pay my dues and become a resident in Mrs. Pruyn's boarding house until called out to sleep in the parks in the event of a strike.

After being browbeaten by a beetlebrowed individual at the union's of it the following rules:

Boarding houses of the class A"

"Rents may be paid monthly, at the

"Landladies shall smile in a pleas ing, but not too emphatic, manner whenever accosted by tenants, and they shall carefully about in from that form of hilarity known as the forced,

Every boarder shall be of the vari ety known as 'star,' and shall alt next o the fandlady's youngest daughter in rotation.

"I hardly dare to offer you this apartment, Mr. Circtfront," said Mrs. Pruyn, indicating a spacious, newly decorated apartment extending along the entire length of the house. The furniture, as you may sex, has not been reporated for several weeks, and the silver plating on that left fancet is slightly dimmed. Neverthelms, it you will condescend to pay me four dollars a week for it. I shall be prun to place it at your disposal, with

"My housekeeper will bring you bot water for shaving at any time you hims wish to be called," Mrs. Proyn con-tinued. "And will you kindly indicate." The the hour at which you wish your shoes polished and your clothes valeted?"

Wilber, 'and when I was yet a young I should because it was too good boy my parents died and I was in to last. But I shall never forget Mrs. trusted to the care of a uncle and

murmured the old man. Money? Ok, they paid Jim to quit.

come back from Freeman's.

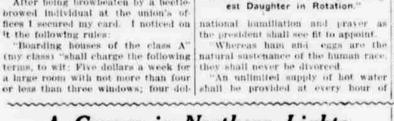
Then I'm free to confess you can get it as well as Jim stid," said trad,

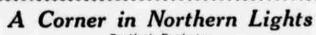
June: I swam! Too bud

in dismay. "It's too had talk way," nently es-

let that stuff loose any time, you can only capture it in January Late into the evening the barsh ob servations of Edgar, as he rebukes

the placid-eyed cattle, made a discord





pathetic behind their bushy thatch as and the juice, when on a jambores he readily deduced his welcome had paints the sky several colors. So Jim been exhausted. But he had no settled found a place where the pole had been home and it was imperative that he re- the year before and being a fox hunter main under his Cousin Efgar's roof a he decided to wait for it to double

"I a'poss you've heard how Jim Witham, over in Porter, paid off his mortgage by gitting a corner on the—the Aurora Horealis," he carelessly observed after a long and gloomy si-

protracted visit, Cousin Edgar was compelled to demand: "What in sin of course the rest was simple." "Simple!" stuttered Edgar "How."

"It's what we call northern lights." had to pay Jim to quit."

A warm glow of

A warm glow of avarice filled Cousin

Settling back more comfortably, Irad lazily continued; "Jim must have



"Had It All Tanked Before You Could Wink an Eye.'

made nigh onto \$800 out of the Aurora He'd been a scientist if he hadn't been forced to work for a living.

But how did Jim do it?" begged Edgar:

Jim was kind of a Aurora tamer. slowly explained Irad. "He got so be understood the ways of the Aurora Then he captured it and made it sit up on its hind legs and made a handsome thing out of it."

"Irad Biglow, do you know anything about this Boryalice?" cried Edgar. 'I certainly do, but hadn't we better

wait till I return from Cousin Freeman's? I swan! It almost seems as if I'd premised to tell him first."

you've paid me a decent visit. As for its shooting lessons." Freeman, he's looking for the dollars. I'm trying to make you feel at beme. of 100 acres, which he couldn't sell,

ously began Irad, "where the magnetic the pupils hoe the lettuce and bug the pole lives when it's at home. This potatoes and wood the spinach while pole, you know," and he eneezed to he taught them how to extract the gain time, "is here to-day and there cube-root from numbers that were sufto-morrow, always loafing in different fering from that malady. Finally the parts of the country.

'A vagrant, ch?' botany all your life," admired the old They were called "masympathetic "Well, Jim began to study the ways of the cuss. He knew wherever with their children instead of old that his life had been a fallare, it is the pole camped all the electricity of Pest.

By Hugh Pendexter. Old frad Riglow's aged eyes became | pole is a clearing house for electricity

"Shall Sit Next the Landlady's Young

back. Sure enough, it came back one night and started in painting the heavens. Jim, with a hig electricity box said. 'Now I have you,' and yank ing fever number 2 he sucked tuto that box 20 quarts of simon pure, Bore-Despite his hostility to the old man's alls electricity. Yes, sirree! had it all.

Where? When?"

Irad squared his law and continued: Why, Jim come home and on the first night let a little of the stuff loose. In Edgar's eyes, and almost softly he in a second the sky was full of the most sisted: "But how can money be made amazing lights you ever see. People the placiney out of 'em?"

the placiney set up all night to watch. The next of the night. he turned on some more and the whole

the day and night; nor shall the said water ever refuse to flow by reason of its being drawn off in the base

end of each month; but should the boarder be temporarily inequivent enced, credit may be extended at the discretion of the union.

or boarding-house, laugh.

meals, of course, thrown in."

I was too stunned to speak

Then I awoke. I had to I knew that Pruyn's charming smile, (Copyright, 190, by W. G. Chapman.)

village was as light as day only it not pleasant. was the delirium tremens of natural light and folks couldn't sleep. Roosters crowed all the time. Hens laid eggs till they died of exhaustion And-But, Irad, the money!

"If he got it, I can get it," cried Edgar, rising. S'pose we talk about that when I

You are to stay here another week,

grimly declared Edgar. breathing in sleep relief. 'Hin' it's

Why too bud, lead?" pleaded Edgar

plained the old man. "While you can

(Copyright, 1905, by W.-G. Chapman)

Medium-Sized Journeys

By Strickland W. Gillian.

which, through natural processes of deat. He stated in his writings at that ment between myself and their daugh big is of a nervous nature. Follow decay, Roquefort cheese was unveiled time that education should begin at to the succeeding centuries. People the cradic. He reasoned that if the who knew Pestalozzi best accented his name on first syllable.

He is said to have founded modern pedagogy, and many an indignant parent is sorry he died before they had a few words with him. His first crack out of the box was the statement that educational methods should be intelligent—a statement so absurd that the whole educational world laughed till it had to be pounded on the spine. The principle has never been anduly insisted upon since.

Pestalozzi farmed awhile; but failed a make it pay. This experience is common, especially among those who take to farming because they are too impractical to do anything else successfully. Failure is targety a dicase, and until you get cured of it you might first as well remain out of any regular husiness. People who noticed the pedagogical-looking gentleman trying to farm while wearing congress gaiters, a collar and tie, and planting dried apples in alternative ows with the pieplant in an effort to Lutherburbank a few dried-apple pies. had all they could do not to believe the old man a little mite dippy

Failing at the farm work he again went to teaching, reasoning thus: "I'm too intelligent for this kind of It needs a lower order of in-"Irad, you don't leave my roof till tellect. Me to the young idea and

So he tried to combine the farm with the teaching game. He had a "Jim Witham went up north," nerve sort of a Squeers scheme of making parents of the little Smikes and Nicholases got hep to the old man's well put as if you'd studied graft and took the children home parents" because they sympathized

the globe would pass through. The In 1780, after the kid-farm had

John Q. Pestalozzi was born in 1746, fatled, he was down to cases finanthe country in cially, and consequently wrote a goounweated infant knew the multiplica tion table the secrows of the world would pack up and go elsewhere. No ble thought

He wrote a book on "psychologizing education" that nebody understands It was published in installments in the department of the Zuriel



Making the Pupils Hoe the Lettuce

Evening Palladium, and Sam Lloyd is still jeafous of Pestalozzi. As a syste matizer, he was a fallure and every body said that all his system of edu cantion needed was systematizing.

He did very little harm in a special way, his only bad break being the founding of the child-study fad, which has been a great thing for people who have one or fewer children and aren't such very good parents of even the softtary chick they have. He contalk meaningless mother talk longer without stopping for breath, than Ed die Howard Griggs of the present day which is going some

He died in 1827, in the firm belief rude to contradict our elders

the amount of personal property with-In the state's borders subject to taxa-Ottopyrtght, 180, by W. G. Chargenga a

YOUNG MAN-FRIGHTENED INTO PROFOUND SLEEP

NO TRIED MEANS HAS BEEN ABLE TO AWAKE YOUTH WHOSE CASE PUZZLES PHYSICIANS.

Philadelphia,-When Louis Cohen, young Russian, who boards with Hyman Weinstein on Green street, frightened he almost immediately falls

Once sompolent there is no telling when he will awake again. It may be days or it may be weeks. At pres-ent he is in the hospital and is sleeping as though wound up for a month to come.

The case is one of the most puzzling, the hospital physicians say, that they have come across. Every effort has been made to awaken him without Danger, Me .- Far up the valley of success. the Crooked river, in Washington county, beyond the limits of the log-

To electric shocks he has proved imprevious. Douches of ice water have



Douches of Ice Water Have Not Dis turbed Him

not disturbed him, nor have baths of almost scalding water. Not even the pricking of pine has served to rouse

The doctors have decided now to sit down and want until the young man has finished his nap.

A peculiar feature of Cohenia at fliction is that he seems to be able to sleep without food for an indefinite period without suffering

Three months ago, when he dropped into a doze the laid time he was fright ened, he slept for two weeks on stretch. When he finally awake h dressed, ptcked up his dinner backet and went to work as though nothing had happened.

This time Cohen's oup was supered duced by an experience he had with a policeman. He was out late the other night and did not sook his home un of three o'clock in the morning

When he reached the house he found he had forgotten his key. At cordingly, he pounded on the door While waiting for some one to open he was grasped by a policeman.

What are you doing here? the copasked, gruffly.

Cohen trembled. The appearance of Weinstein saved him further trouble but he staggered, Weinstein says, and was barely able to reach his bed. Then he threw himself down, half dressed, and went sound to sleep

In the opinion of the physicians who worked over him the young man's troter, Mary Stoningham, I would have ing a fright or shock, it would seem long before started out to find employthere is a reflex action which leads to sleep almost immediately.

Against this tendency Cohen seems uable to exert any mental force. This is considered the more remarkable, as Cohen is an unusual specimen of phy sicul strength.

FIGHTS WILD CAT FOR LIFE.

Poultry Raiser Encounters the Beast Among Chickens and Desperate Battle Ensues

Middletown, Conn - John Simonton poultry raiser at Deep river, mear here, had a desperate battle for his life with a 50-pound wild eat; as: cording to the story which has just reached here. Simonton heard a noise among the

chickens before daylight, and when he opened one of the henhouses be encountered the wild cat. As Simon Stoningham, with whom I had been in ton's dog jumped at the brute the animal turned and struck Simonton blow with one paw that tore his head where she had lived with her parents open. I deposited my money in a bank and

He seized a club just as the beast sprang for his face. He missed, and the cut sank its claws into his arms. He shook it off, but it leaped again They went down together, and for 15 minutes were engaged in a terrific struggle, with the dog assisting bia master the best he could

Simonton finally brought the club down on the wild cat's head killing It, "My money now seemed valueless to but not until he had been frightfully inversited.

Eel Wins Midair Battle,

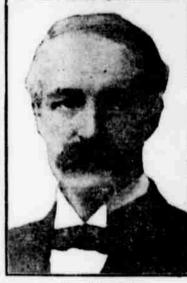
Oak Orchard, Del - A midair fight that direction until I came to the for life on the part of a three-foot salt water eet, made captive by a hawk, entertained cottagens and fishermen try, and here I erected my log but here and finally ended in the release

The battle was won by the cel wrapping its folds around the hawk's wings, rendering it helpless to fly. For five minutes the fight tinned, but the sel was too large for the bird and the hawk was finally defeated and compelled to drop the big cel back into the river.

PINCHOT TO SUCCEED ANGELL

Chief Government Forester Likely to Se Named Head of Michigan University, It is Said.

Ann Arbor, Mich .- A name that h toing favorably discussed on the campus as a suitable successor to Dr. James II, Angell as president of Michigan university, is that of Gifford Pinchot, chief forester of the United States. When the name first came up for discussion it was favorably received by almost every member of the faculty, regardless of whatever other



Gifford Pinchot.

preferences they may have had for other candidates. Said one man, who is at the head of one of the depart-

in my mind, Mr. Pinchot is one of the likeliest men that has been named; in fact, in my mind he is the likeliest man that could be named as Dr. Angel's successor. Mr. Pinchot is broad ganged, strong, with backbone to put through any needed measure and to see that the measure is maintained asterward. A man exceedingly attable and courteous, and, above all, a man of distoracy.

"Mr. Pinchot in a man of the day and age, and of the caliber that will keep abreast of the times, and he will be one of the foremost men in the public eye for years and years after most putille men of to-day are laid away on the shelf, as past their publie usefulness. He is a man of strong character, just such as is needed at the head of such an institution as Michigan when President Angeli shall lay down the duties of office."

Mr. Pinchot is highly educated, and has served the government as spedal commissioner to foreign countries. This training has had a breadening eftest upon a man naturally broad in his ideas, and he seems today to be the most logical man for the vacancy that will occur at Michigan when Dr. Annell shall retire from active admin-Istrative duties.

JOB FOR ROOSEVELT'S FRIEND

"Tennis Crack" Cooley Appointed As sociate Justice of Supreme Court of New Mexico.

Washington - Alfred W. Cooley, or Tennis Crack" Cooley, one of the most constant members of the Roosevelt tennis cabinet, was recently nominated by President Taft to be associate dustice of the supreme court of New Mexico. Mr. Cooley at one time



was civil service commissioner and was made assistant attorney general under Possapurte. He is a tall, broadthoughtered young man, who appears particularly well in flannels, and was the best of tennis players with the exception of Robert Bacon. Mr. Cooley oked athletic, but a year ago his bealth failed suddenly and he resigned. going to New Mexico. When it was thought, a few months ago, that he had recovered. Mr. Roosevelt again appointed him assistant attorney general, but Mr. Cooley's physician, after examination, refused to approve a

Honor for Luther Burbank,

change of climate.

The California club, the largest civic club in San Francisco, has succeeded in getting the birthday of Luther flurbank set aside as bird and arbor day for the state. While the day is not to be a holiday, all public schools and edneational institutions are directed to observe it by including in the achoof work such exercises as will teach the childree the economic value of birds and trees and promote a spirit of pratection toward them.